The Semaphore

A Publication of Telegraph Hill Dwellers

* Walter Isaacson, CNN Chairman

Green Street's Gift to Pop Culture: The Television

ISSUE 161 FALL 2002

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Cover: It happened in the neighborhood. Seventy-five years ago this fall, a 22 year-old genius working in a tiny lab at 202 Green Street invented the most influential appliance of the 20th Century: the TV. In this issue, Art Peterson explores the life of local legend Philo Farnsworth. Photo courtesy the San Francisco Public Library. Cover design by Chris Carlsson. Story on pg. 12.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Gerry Crowley

What better way to celebrate spring than to have a fundraising gala at Teatro Zin Zanni to benefit the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center? The staff and cast enthusiastically tailored the event to help create a neighborhood feeling. Nationally acclaimed jazz singer Paula West, whom columnist Liz Smith describes as "smoky, swinging and sophisticated," was skillfully woven into the program. It was uplifting to see so many Telegraph Hill Dwellers supporting Tel-Hi and having such a festive evening. THD members Gail Switzer and Jack Bair were recently elected to the Tel-Hi board of directors.

Spring also brought focus to the wild parrots. Mark Bittner did a presentation on the parrots and his forthcoming book while Judy Irving showed rough-cut footage of her film, "Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill." Both events took place at San Francisco's Main Library to standing-room-only crowds. We look forward to the time when the book and film are premiered together.

A group of THD members took a springtime Bay Cruise with Daniel Bacon of the San Francisco Historical Society. It was a challenge to visualize the original shoreline, to imagine the City without skyscrapers and the Bay without bridges .

A Sunday in May found many of us attending a day-long revel at Enrico's Sidewalk Cafe. Partygoers celebrated the cafe's 10th anniversary, the North Beach Bohemian Festival, a North

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THD President Gerry Crowley receives a plaque from the Omni Hotel's Dayna Zeitlin commemorating the dedication of the Hotel's newly restored Telegraph Hill Room.

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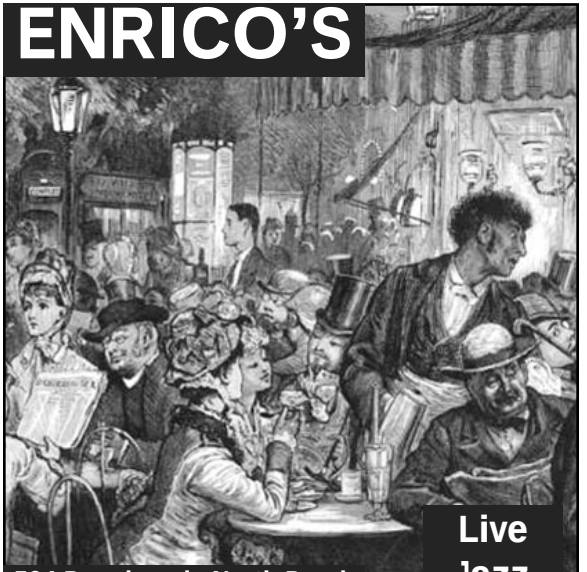

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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Beach artists' exhibition and, finally, the 80th birthday of Enrico Banducci himself. Owner Mark McLeod provided scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and smooth jazz.

In June, it was my pleasure to accept the Dedicated Community Group Award on behalf of THD at the Clean City Summit. Presented by Edwin Lee, director of the Department of Public Works, the award recognizes the efforts of Neighborhood Beautification chairwoman Jan Holloway and her committee. We all owe a debt of gratitude to those THD members who give so much time to the cleaning and greening of North Beach and Telegraph Hill.

Author David Myrick flew in from Santa Barbara one chilly July afternoon for a book signing party in honor of his revered *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill* at the Art Institute. Since then, David has written to say how much he appreciated the warm and hospitable THD reception which enabled him to visit with so many Telegraph Hill friends. One of my pleasures is to give David's book as a gift from THD to those who have served our community in a special way. Recent recipients include Larry Page, who served local residents with caring and expertise at the North Beach Post Office for more than three decades, and Captain Jim Dudley of SFPD's Central Station, who was promoted to the rank of commander. What is it about Central Station? Cream-of-the-crop captains are assigned to Central and as soon as THD establishes a healthy, responsive relationship, the captains are transferred or promoted. Perhaps North Beach is a training center.

Because of pressing family commitments, THD board member Gloria Smith has resigned. A resident of 101 Lombard Street, she represented the many people who live on the lower east side of the Hill and helped recruit many new members from that location. Her willingness to undertake Semaphore advertising responsibility was appreciated by her colleagues on the board, as was her cheerful demeanor. Many thanks, Gloria.

On August 1st, North Beach residents celebrated as Supervisor Aaron Peskin pulled the switch which activated the long-awaited traffic signal at the corner of Columbus Avenue and Lombard Street. Although the need for traffic control at that intersection had been established by THD and other groups for the better part of two decades, the project was not funded by the City until Supervisor Peskin made it a priority. Enhancing the celebration, were the pre-school children from the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center, who not only wore cardboard traffic lights for the occasion, but serenaded us as well with a traffic light song. Only in North Beach.

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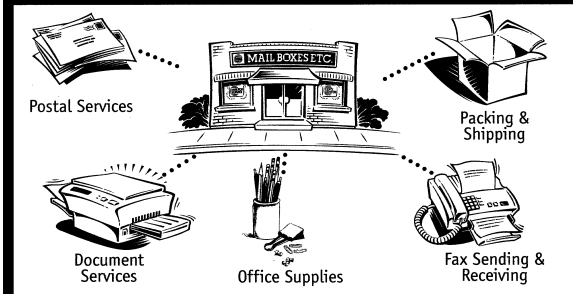

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Planning and Zoning Committee Report

By Mary Lipian and Nan Roth

I. Telegraph Hill Historic District

(This historic district on the east side of Telegraph Hill was established in 1986 to preserve the largest group of pre-1870 structures in the City.)

1. 21 Alta Street—The new owner of this 1862 Italianate structure (Michalsen Grocery) is proposing to repair and rehabilitate the building, retaining the existing 4 units of rental housing. The project, under the guidance of a preservation architect, includes replacing the existing shingles with horizontal painted wood siding, repairing all historic windows, replacing aluminum windows with painted wood double or single hung windows, installing new wood railings to match existing ones in other locations, and replacing existing wood decks. The project will require a Certificate of Appropriateness and is scheduled for Landmarks Board review on August 21. THD supports this project.

2. 22 Alta Street—This project seems to be moving along with plans for construction expected to be filed with the City within a month according to the project architect. An application for an encroachment permit for the entry and driveway has already been filed with the Department of Street Use and Mapping. Issues concerning geotech studies and plans for the foundation have not been resolved and a request has been made to the Building Department to carefully address these issues before permits for construction are approved.

3 Heslett Compound—This collection of historic, pre-1906-earthquake cottages in the stairway garden along the Greenwich Steps is back on the market. THD continues to have concerns about the cottages, as they are located in a sensitive part of the Telegraph Hill Historic District and could be significantly affected by inappropriate development.

4. 290 Union St.—The Planning Commission took formal action (upheld by the Board of Appeals) requiring the developer to bring this project into conformance with the original Landmarks Board and Commission approvals. Six months after this action, the developer submitted revised plans for the required changes. Based on THD's review of these plans, however, it appears they still do not comply with the conditions imposed by the Planning Commission. THD will continue to work with the Planning Department to ensure compliance.

II. Other Residential Projects

1. 460 Filbert—The owners' original plans to modify this building, to bring the front wall of the building approximately 18 feet out to match the front walls of the buildings on either side, have been revised. They have incorporated some suggestions made by the P & Z Committee per the City's Residential Design Guidelines, to make it more compatible in material and detail with surrounding North Beach character, while maintaining a modern design.

2. 1454-56 Kearny Street—The new owners of this fire-damaged building have applied for a permit to reconstruct this two-unit structure exactly as it existed prior to the fire. A presentation will be made to the P & Z Committee on Aug. 22.

3. 12 Reno Place—Permits were approved for major changes to the front facade of this building and this work is still ongoing. By separate permit application, the owner is proposing to construct a "garage" for a small car within and beneath Reno Place, which would result in the conversion of this narrow historic wooden walkway into a "driveway." THD has expressed its strong opposition to this proposal and the City's Zoning Administrator has determined that placing any structure in Reno Place would require the owner to apply for and justify a variance. Although no variance has been requested, it appears that portions of the Reno Place walkway have already been demolished and that work is taking place in this area.

4. 115 Telegraph Hill Blvd. (immediately south of Pioneer Park/Coit Tower)—Amid much controversy and despite strong neighborhood objections, a Conditional Use Authorization (CUA) was approved for this now-vacant site in 1994. This led to the removal of the historic Bill Bailey Cottage (into "storage" at a Muni yard) and the demolition of several other residential structures on this site. Because the approval was only valid for three years and the project has not been completed after 7-1/2 years, the CUA has expired. During this time, the Pioneer Park Project has been completed and community interest (and

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PLANNING AND ZONING

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public views) are focused on this site. The property has recently been listed for sale at a price of $4.5 million.

5. Vallejo Street Project (bounded by Vallejo, Romolo and Fresno)—This 4,616 sq. ft. site currently has 2 existing residential structures (with 4 vacant dwelling units) and a large open pay parking lot. The proposed project would demolish the existing dwelling units and incorporate the existing public parking into a garage below and as a part of the new residential structure. The project would require a variance from rear yard setback requirements, approval to combine the density capacity for the three existing lots, and a Conditional Use Authorization for public parking. Following a presentation, the P & Z Committee suggested that the architect conduct a massing study and offered comments on the proposed design.

III. North Beach Neighborhood Commercial District

(In 1987, the North Beach Neighborhood Commercial District Ordinance was adopted to maintain the character of and mix of businesses in North Beach.)

1. 474 Columbus Ave.—Tenant improvements are almost complete to convert this storefront, vacated several years ago by Radio Shack, to an Italian candy store called Z Cioccolato.

2. 721 Filbert St. (parking garage at Filbert and Columbus)—A 1998 seismic retrofit of the 1906 Hildebrand Stables (now a parking garage), triggered the requirements of ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) to make the parking garage handicap accessible. After four years the Building Department discovered that this had not yet been done and ordered the owner to comply with a previously issued permit to demolish a portion of the original brick facade in order to install a handicap accessible door and ramp. With the assistance of the Planning and Building Department staff, and with the cooperation of the building owner and his architect, an alternative was found, through the application of the State Historic Building Code, that will make it be possible to comply with ADA requirements without damaging the facade of the structure. It will also cost the owner less money.

3. 1438 Grant Ave. (Savoy Tivoli)—On May 1, 2002, the Alcoholic Beverage Commission issued an

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PLANNING AND ZONING *continued from previous page*

Interim Retail Permit for a period of up to 120 days, with conditions. A hearing to consider denying issuance of a permanent liquor license is scheduled for Aug. 20. But as we went to press, it appears that the Savoy Tivoli, ABC, Police Department and the protesting parties have agreed to conditions to be attached to the permanent license. These include requiring soundproofing and other measures to insure the reduction and control of noise.

4. 701 Lombard Street (triangular parking lot bounded by Columbus, Lombard and Mason across from the North Beach Pool)—The project proposed for this approximately 4,000-square foot site located across from the North Beach pool and library is a four-story, nine-unit condominium. It is 40 feet in height, plus 10 feet of rooftop features, with two very small ground floor retail shops on the Columbus Avenue elevation. There are also nine interior ground floor parking stalls. On July 24, the Planning Department sent the project sponsor a Notice of Planning Department Requirements asking that the project sponsor add floor area to the commercial units, reconfigure the ground floor to combine the two proposed commercial units, move the lobby to the Lombard/Columbus corner, and use the highest quality materials for the exterior, including horizontal wood siding. The Planning Department is waiting for revisions from the architect. The project is also undergoing environmental analysis. In addition, some members of the community are interested in using this undeveloped parcel for the site of a new North Beach Library.

5. 1968 Powell (SF Battle Zone)—Earlier this year the small grocery store that occupied this address for years was converted into an Internet cafe. The Zoning Administrator (ZA) determined that personal computers used for game playing fall under the definition of "Amusement Game Arcades" (defined by the Planning Code as 11 or more mechanical or electrical amusement devices), which are not permitted in Neighborhood Commercial Districts. The ZA's determination further elaborated that if there are 10 or fewer mechanical or electrical amusement devices, the use would be classified as "Other Entertainment" which in most NCDs, including the North Beach NCD, would require a Conditional Use Authorization from the Planning Commission. Based on the ZA determination, a Notice of Violation was sent the owners of SF Battle Zone. The owners appealed the ZA's determination to the Board of Appeals, where a hearing will be held when the newly appointed Board is seated.

IV. WATERFRONT

(The following was prepared by Nan Roth, Chair of THD's Waterfront Committee.)

1. Northern Waterfront National Register Historic District. With THD's active support, the Port has almost completed the preparation of a National Register nomination of its properties along the northern waterfront (from Pier 45 to Pier 48). The submission of the nomination to the State Office of Historic Preservation is expected before the end of the year.

2. Broadway Family Apartments (NE Waterfront Historic District)—Two years ago, Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC) was awarded a contract by the Mayor's Office of Housing to develop affordable housing on a City-owned site on the north side of Broadway between Battery and Front Streets. THD has been involved in design development as a member of the Community Advisory Committee. The project consists of an 8-story concrete building at the corner of Battery and Broadway and two smaller wood-frame buildings on Broadway and Battery atop a garage. It will include 85 units of affordable rental housing, a childcare center, 2,000 square feet of commercial space and parking. The project sponsors and architect have made several changes in the project's design in response to THD concerns, and THD has given the project strong support. The Landmarks Board reviewed the project for a Certificate of Appropriateness, and voted 6-2 against recommending

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PLANNING AND ZONING

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approval. (Five votes are required for approval.) THD will continue to monitor and lend support to this project as it proceeds through the process.

3. Embarcadero Hotel Project at Broadway and The Embarcadero (NE Waterfront Historic District)—In response to community concerns, the developers for this project have retained new architects, reduced the project's height from 84 feet to 65 feet, and reduced the room count from 450 to approximately 250 (all of which will be located on the block fronting on the Embarcadero). While a new architectural design is not yet available, the developers indicate that they are committed to staying within the parameters of the original RFP and satisfying all of the concerns raised by the community and the THD. This includes preserving view corridors and eliminating the bridge over Davis Street.

4. Piers 1-1/2, 3 and 5—This redevelopment and historic rehabilitation project involves the replacement of what is now primarily office space with a mixture of office, retail, restaurants and cafes. Although office space predominates, the project incorporates features such as the Port Walk, in an imaginative and creative way that will enliven and enrich the waterfront to a greater degree than other projects. The project was determined to not require environmental review and qualifies for the 20 percent Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit.

5. Piers 27-31—The Port executed a Development Memorandum with the Mills Corporation on March 29. The developer is now in the process of qualifying for the 20 percent Federal Historic Tax Credit and has recently submitted an application for environmental review. While the executed Development Memorandum would seem to preclude any further programming changes to this project, it continues to concern the northeast waterfront community, including the Fisherman's Wharf merchants, because it will add new office, retail and restaurant space, all at the expense of the project's mandated focus on recreation. THD will continue to play an active role in working towards further modifications to bring the project into compliance with the Port's original request for proposals (RFP).

VI. Landmarks

1. Colombo Building—Designation of this building as City Landmark No. 237 was approved by both the Landmarks Board and Planning Commission, and was enacted into law by the Board of Supervisors on August 22. Plans to restore the Colombo Building as a part of the new City College North Beach/Chinatown campus are underway.

2. Haslett Warehouse—Since the five-alarm fire ripped through this 1909 historic warehouse in the early hours of March 17, the developer, the Kimpton Hotel Group, and the owner, the National Park Service, are moving forward with its restoration and conversion to a hotel. Now expected to be completed by next summer, the rehabilitation of this property, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's standards.

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The Edison of Green Street

How a 21-Year-Old Genius Invented the Television—In the Shadow of Telegraph Hill

By Art Peterson

It may be just a book blurb but those of us who live on Telegraph Hill have reason to take notice. On the back cover of Even Schwartz's recent biography of Philo T. Farnsworth, Walter Issacson, the chairman of CNN, calls Farnsworth "probably the most influential unknown person in the past century."

The basis for this claim springs from the work that Farnsworth did at 202 Green Street, at the corner of Sansome. On September 7, 1927, 75 years ago this month, Farnsworth invented television. When Farnsworth began his work a year earlier he was 21 years old, roughly the age of many of the skateboarders one sees performing in front of the Waterfront restaurant these days.

By the time Farnsworth came to the neighborhood, he had been carrying his television idea around for seven years. At 14, plowing his father's potato field in Idaho, he noticed the furrows lined up in neat parallel rows. For the rest of us a furrow is a furrow is a furrow, but the young Farnsworth saw something else. He saw the furrows as lines in a picture that could be broken down, transmitted, then reassembled into a complete picture. Just like television.

This idea became his life. He married at 20 and on his wedding night said to his wife Elma, who was known as Pem: "Pemmie, I have to tell you. There is another woman in my life and her name is television."

Farnsworth's break came when, while working as a temp for the Community Chest in Utah, he met George Everson, a successful fund raiser and Californian. Everson understood that Farnsworth was onto something. Using his San Francisco connections, he arranged to get Farnsworth $25,000 in funding through the Crocker Bank as well as use of the Green Street "laboratory." Meeting Farnsworth for the first time, Crocker's Roy Bishop told the young man, "This is the first time anyone has come into this room and got anything out of us without laying something on the table for it."

Green Street Genesis

Farnsworth was disappointed when, visiting his laboratory for the first time, discovered it was far from the state-of-the-art facility he had been expecting. 202 Green, known as the Giusti Building after the owner of the carpentry shop on the ground floor, also housed a ground-level garage. Farnsworth was to occupy the upper floor, an area of 600 square feet with a raftered ceiling.

Location was also a problem. Farnsworth had anticipated a space near the top of Telegraph Hill, where he could conduct his work free of interfering power lines. Instead, the Green Street building abutted the very bottom of the hill, where there was always a danger of rock slides. David Myrick describes one slide in February 1927 in which "rock and earth plunged from Calhoun Terrace, carrying along small sheds, chicken houses and fences." But, except for a few broken windows, the lab was unharmed.

Farnsworth and Pem, along with Pem's brother, Cliff Gardner, who came to work for Farnsworth, settled briefly in Berkeley, taking the ferry each day to San Francisco. But the commute was taking up to three hours a day so they soon moved to Vallejo Street on the west side of Telegraph Hill. Farnsworth bought a dilapidated

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Green Street Edison *continued*

Maxwell touring car to shorten the distance to work. One night, Farnsworth discovered he was out of gas, but this was a mere trifle for a man with his talents. He simply went back into the lab, mixed up a concoction of alcohol and ether, filled the tank and drove home.

Except for the skylights that still grace the building, Farnsworth's work space, with its rigged electric fittings and wooden braces, was a primitive affair, looking as much like Dr. Frankenstein's secret lab as anything else. But Farnsworth and his crew, which now included Pem, forged ahead. Then came that September day in 1927 when Farnsworth was able to transmit an image from one room—containing his "dissector unit" — to another, where the image was received on a blue screen. "That's it folks," he said, "There you have electronic television."

These embryonic beginnings, however, left Farnsworth a long way from producing a marketable product. His backers, who by this time had invested far more than their initial $25,000, were getting nervous. One day, James Fagan, one of the money men, showed up at Green Street asking for a demonstration. "When are we going to see the dollars in this thing?" he wanted to know. As if on cue, Cliff Gardner slid an image in front of the image detector in one room and on

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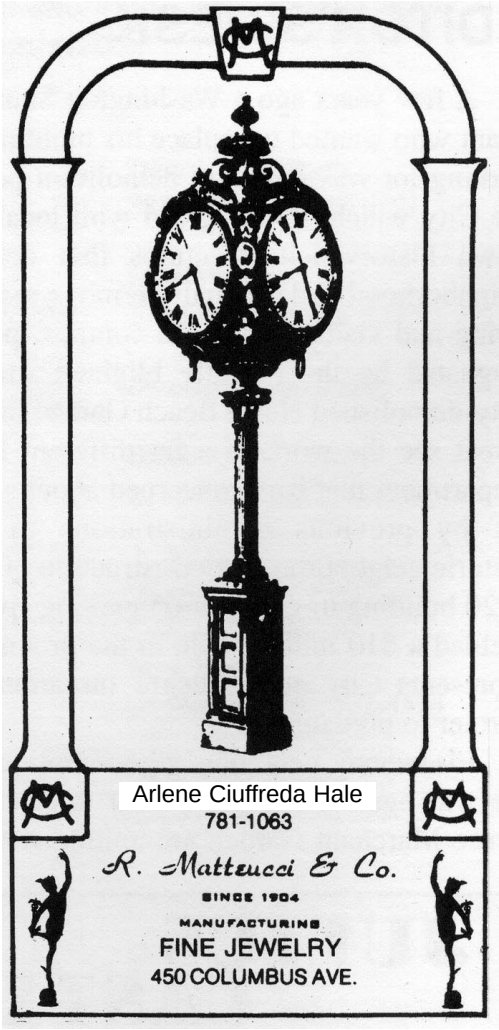

Green Street Edison *continued*

the glowing blue screen in the adjoining room appeared a thick black dollar sign. Fagan could see his dollars.

By 1929, Farnsworth was transmitting visual signals as far the as the Hobart building, a mile from the lab. But the investors were feeling the crunch. "It will take a pile of money as high as Telegraph Hill to pull this off," one of them said. There was talk of selling off Farnsworth's patents to a large electronics company.

Sarnoff Steals the Show

Meanwhile, word of Farnsworth's work had leaked out, attracting prominent visitors to Green Street. In 1930, the radio pioneers Guglielmo Marconi and Lee De Forest visited the lab. They were followed by actress Mary Pickford and her husband Douglas Fairbanks Sr. The couple, along with Charlie Chaplin, had recently formed United Artists Studios and wanted to find out about this new phenomenon that could send their venture in a different direction.

Farnsworth's most important visitor however, was not well known. He was Vladimir Zworkin, another television pioneer, whose own work led to a dead end. At the time of his visit, however, Zworkin was employed by David Sarnoff, the president of RCA who himself was obsessed with winning the race to turn television into a marketable product. Farnsworth, believing that all his patents were protected, welcomed Zworkin as a fellow scientist, demonstrating his entire bag of tricks.

Zworkin was mightily impressed, so it should come as no surprise that in 1931 the impeccably dressed David Sarnoff himself came knocking on the door at Green Street. Farnsworth was out of town, so his old patron, George Everson, conducted the demonstration. What Sarnoff saw was much closer to a marketable product than anything he had on the drawing boards. But Sarnoff left Green Street saying, "There's nothing here we'll need."

Sarnoff later offered Farnsworth $100,000 for his patents. Farnsworth rejected the offer, not only because it was a puny sum considering what he had to sell, but because like his role model Thomas Edison, he did not want to sell his

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Philo Farnsworth demonstrates his great invention in 1928.

Green Street Edison *continued*

patents. What he wanted was to establish a licensing agreement with RCA. But Sarnoff was not interested in licensing agreements; he wanted to own the rights.

By late 1931, the Green Street operation was bleeding red ink. It was so bad that Farnsworth and his employees, which by now included Russell Varian, who would go on to become a household name in Silicon Valley, packed up and went to Philadelphia. There, Philco—which was out to beat RCA in the race for a marketable television—set him up in a laboratory.

In 1934, unable to win Farnsworth over, Sarnoff and RCA challenged all 14 of his patents. In every case the U.S. Patent Office ruled in Farnsworth's favor. RCA finally settled with Farnsworth in 1939, agreeing to pay $1 million for the rights to his main patents. But by then it was too late. Drink and depression were already taking their toll on Philo Farnsworth. He lingered until 1971, dying flat broke and largely forgotten.

The current tenant at 202 Green Street, Philo Television, is a post-production TV company specializing in corporate videos and infomercials. Farnsworth's memory is honored there by the naming of various editing rooms after people close to him. There is a Cliff Room and an Elma Room. The only other reminder that Farnsworth ever worked there is a charred beam which survived a 1930 fire that destroyed much of what Farnsworth was working on. As it turned out, the building and its contents were fully insured. It was one of Farnsworth's few lucky breaks.

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Schwartz, Evan *The Last Lone Inventor: A Tale of Genius Deceit and the Birth of Television* (San Francisco: HarperCollins: 2002)

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BOB MCMILLAN

Philo Farnsworth's studio at 202 Green Street today: Television's birthplace at the foot of Telegraph Hill.

From the Desk of Supervisor Peskin

By Aaron Peskin

Over the summer, my office was able to make progress on several fronts, including helping to pass an effective city budget, continuing to reform the city's planning process and alleviating neighborhood parking problems.

The city's Budget proved to be a tremendous challenge this year. A slumping regional economy and a post-Sept. 11 decrease in tourism translated into a $175 million projected budget shortfall for San Francisco in this coming fiscal year.

The Board of Supervisors' Budget Committee (on which I served as vice-chair) sought to bridge this budget gap while avoiding cuts to citywide and neighborhood services. I've also been on a somewhat of a personal crusade to require departments to spend money more efficiently, whether it's the Airport, the Fire Department or any other City agency.

I believe progress was made in the recent budget process toward a more effective city budget. We avoided making cuts to services that residents depend on, including maintenance of open spaces like Washington Square and Pioneer Park, recent cleaning programs to improve North Beach and Chinatown, and important non-profit service providers, such as the Telegraph Hill Center. I also led a charge against certain political sacred cows in the City's budget, including massive overtime expenses in the Fire and Police Department and excessive use of City cars by departmental leaders.

Regarding the planning process, great progress was made this past March when voters approved Proposition D. Prop D changes how appointments are made to the Planning Commission and Board of Permit Appeals and promises a more balanced set of commissioners who can make independent decisions. Unfortunately, as I write this column, the City does not have a Planning Commission as the Mayor pulled his initial nominees and has not submitted new ones. When he does makes ap-pointments and a quorum is reached on the Planning Commission, I look forward to the Commission addressing a range of legislation that we have introduced, including pieces to streamline and centralize collection of development fees and to strengthen local historic preservation incentives.

I'm very pleased to announce that we recently passed legislation to reform the use of on-street parking by local construction projects. Many Hill Dwellers know about various construction projects that have taken valuable on-street parking in the neighborhood for months at a time —often using space only sporadically and reserved with sloppy, misleading signage. The problem was initially raised by the Hill Dwellers' own Parking and Transportation Committee, as well as several local residents. Our legislation will make several improvements in City policy: 1) a new fee structure that provides an incentive for projects to minimize their use of street space; 2) new requirements for signage that explain exactly how long parking will be reserved; 3) a hotline number for action on complaints about parking; 4) additional staff to enforce limits on use of spaces for construction projects. Thanks to all of you who brought this problem to my attention in the first place.

As always, please be in touch with my office as questions or concerns arise: 554-7450 or Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org. See you around Telegraph Hill.

ù

Place
Stamp
Here

Mail to:

Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Semaphore Survey
P.O. Box 330159
San Francisco, CA 94133

The Semaphore Survey

Sound off. Win a Prize.

Dear *Semaphore* Reader,

I'm asking you this month to please take a moment and fill out our *Semaphore* Readers' Survey. The staff of volunteers who bring you the Semaphore each quarter are proud of our newsletter, but we'd really like to know what you think. What are we doing right? What are we doing wrong? What would you like to see us change?

The Semaphore is your community newsletter, so please, take a moment and let us know how you think we could make it even better.

If you want to make your comments anonymously, please go ahead, but if you include your name and phone number, we'll enter your name in a draw to win an ultra-fashionable THD sweatshirt. The draw will be held on November 1, 2002.

Kind Regards,

Bob McMillan, Semaphore Editor, 362-6969

1) Tell us about what you read and don't read in the Semaphore.

Section	**How often do you read it (check one)?**			
	Never	Sometimes	Usually	Always
	❑	❑	❑	❑
President's Corner	❑	❑	❑	❑
Supervisor Peskin Report	❑	❑	❑	❑
Profiles of local people	❑	❑	❑	❑
Profiles of local businesses	❑	❑	❑	❑
Planning and Zoning Report	❑	❑	❑	❑
Beautification Committee Report	❑	❑	❑	❑
Social Committee Report	❑	❑	❑	❑
THD Calendar	❑	❑	❑	❑

Other Stories (specify)

(cont.)_____

_____

2) What would you like us to cover more often (Number in order of preference).

___ Local businesses ___ Local personalities ___ Art & Entertainment ___ History
___ Development issues ___ Quality of life issues (traffic, beautification, etc.) ___ Social issues
___ Other (explain) _____

3) What would you like us to cover less often. (Number in order of preference).

___ Local businesses ___ Local personalities ___ Art & Entertainment ___ History
___ Development issues ___ Quality of life issues (traffic, beautification, etc.) ___ Social issues
___ Other (explain) _____

4) Would you be interested in an electronic version of the *Semaphore*, delivered by email instead of US Post?

Yes ❑ No ❑

5) Add any other comments you may have here.

If you'd like a chance to win a fashionable THD sweatshirt enter your name and phone number here.

_____ _____
Name Phone number

Mail to:
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PROGRAM AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

by Suzanne Nelson

We were very fortunate to have David Myrick, author of *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill*, join us for cocktails and a book signing in July. This was a well-attended event where members brought their books (and bought more books) for David to sign. It was a lovely evening at the beautiful San Francisco Art Institute where we had a wine and cheese reception around the fountain in the courtyard. We always appreciate the hospitality of SFAI allowing us to host events on their campus.

With Jazz on Grant behind us, plans are now underway for the family picnic at Pioneer Park under Coit Tower in early September.

Our fall events include a general membership cocktail party in October as well as the annual Italian Heritage Parade, where we reserve seats at a restaurant for lunch and parade watching. Be sure to respond right away when you receive that invitation because seating is limited and there is already a lot of interest.

Also looming is another bowling challenge with Russian Hill Neighbors, slated for November. We hold the trophy now and RHN really wants to win it back. So, let's have a great turnout for that event and "let's keep the trophy!" Also planned for November is a general membership dinner. Our annual holiday party follows in December.

Again, I would like to remind you that if you have access to e-mail you will be advised of social events sooner and also be able to receive additional invitations for other events in the community. Any change in address or how you receive notices should go through Tom Noyes, financial secretary.

As always, new members on the Social Committee are needed and welcome. Just contact me at Suzanne_nelson@yahoo.com or 986-6210. See you at the next event!

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Banks and Bubble Gum

By Marc Bruno

Businesses and building owners are responsible for maintaining the safety and cleanliness of their sidewalks. It's right there in the City code.

This includes the removal of gum. Have you ever looked closely at the black bumpy stuff covering the sidewalks of North Beach? It's gum, and its resistance to heat, water and most abrasives known to man means that wherever it goes, it stays. Like a beached mollusk (from which, by the way, gum is partially made), the vibrant color disappears but the hard gum exoskeleton remains. At that point, as any kid will tell you, it can be reconstituted with a bit of water. (Gum addicts beware: I do not recommend reconstituting sidewalk gum for internal use.)

In order to remove gum and other sticky surfaces on local sidewalks several THD board members and Lorenzo Petroni of North Beach Restaurant have convinced the five banks at the corners of Stockton, Columbus, and Green to hire a steam-cleaning company to permanently maintain the over 1,100 square feet of sidewalks surrounding their banks.

The Columbus-Green-Stockton intersection is not our dirtiest, but project proponents hope to see The North Beach Bankers Neighborhood Clean-up Consortium encourage other businesses to undertake a block-by-block cleanup program. And for those of you concerned with larger social issues, you might be pleased to know that the company hired by NBBNCC is a Mission District nonprofit working with at-risk youth. It's sponsored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco.

NBBNCC will be launched on Sept. 27 at the North Beach Restaurant. Supervisor Aaron Peskin and representatives from the Department of Public Works will be on hand. All are welcome. Please leave your gum at home.

OVERHEARD IN THE HOOD

By Helen Von Ammon

Early one morning on my usual walking rounds, I observed tourists waiting in shivering knots at a cable car stop. New halter tops, sleeveless shirts and short shorts, purchased for the trip, provided zero warmth from San Francisco's relentless wind. Children huddled closer to their parents, wishing they were home in that sunny backyard sandbox. At last a cable car clanked to a stop and the shivering mass climbed gingerly aboard. The cable car czar, barely able to move his equipment, made a loud announcement: "Now listen up," he shouted, "all you tourist types. I want you to hold on REAL TIGHT! I don't want to do any paperwork today."

ADVERTISER NEWS

The Semaphore welcomes a new advertiser this issue: North Beach Pet Supplies, 801 Greenwich at Columbus. Owner Kevin Lynch is offering a 10 percent discount to THD members for a 30-day period starting Sept. 15.

Mail Boxes Etc at 1299 Columbus, a longtime advertiser is asking for THD support of its "pack, ship and earn extra credit" program, effective Sept. 1, which benefits neighborhood schools. When a customer packs and ships through MBE, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the participating school of the customer's choice. In addition to these donations for educational needs, MBE is providing teachers with special discounts and limited free copying services.

Good Things Growing on the Greenwich Steps

By Maya Armour

The lovely garden that Valetta Heslet planted on the City-owned property in the 200 block of Greenwich Street is getting a badly needed facelift, thanks to local residents, San Francisco Beautiful and the Department of Public Works.

Valetta's garden was not maintained after her death. Its appearance had deteriorated and it became a popular spot for people to engage in unlawful activities.

But now, residents of that block and 101 Lombard are turning the garden around. Recently, San Francisco Beautiful awarded its maximum grant — $5,000 — to this project. DPW provided a landscape architect, and — during the August blitz on Telegraph Hill — DPW workers and volunteers began clearing the land of weeds and trash in preparation for a new garden.

Plans include additional lighting to make the area safer. The friends of the garden are excited about this project and are looking forward to making it once again reflect the pride that people take in this special part of the Hill. If you would like to donate plants or tools or to volunteer on this project, please contact Maya Armour (986-1474 or MLArmour@pacbell.net).

Fog Hill Market

Hanna Chedyak

415-781-8817 1300 Kearny
San Francisco, CA 94133

Neighborhood Center Looking for Volunteers

There's no time like the present to give back to our community and help ensure its bright future. The Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center, located in the heart of North Beach, is a 112-year-old, non-profit agency that helps low-income children, youth, families and seniors.

Tel-Hi is currently looking for community members who can volunteer weekday mornings and afternoons and who would like to make a minimum one-hour-per-week commitment for three months. Volunteers tutor, mentor, read with or lead enrichment workshops for children ages 2 ½ - 13. They can also work with our active and independent seniors. Enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers are invaluable to the Center. Their work is deeply appreciated.

The Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center is located at 660 Lombard Street. To find out more, contact Jan Sassano at (415) 421-6443 x37 (e-mail: jan@tel-hi.org), or visit the Tel-Hi website at www.tel-hi.org.

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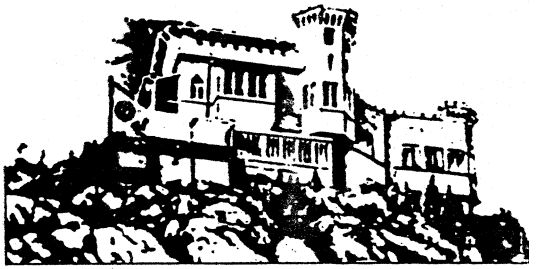

For reservations please call 362-3042

Beautification Committee News

By Jan Holloway

The day-long Clean City Summit II began on June 20 with DPW Director Ed Lee exhorting attendees to ask how improvements to the City can be done, rather than saying that they can't be done.

Although Lee said the City is much cleaner now, he asked for help in finding new private partnerships to assist DPW. The job, he said, is too great for one department.

Mayor Brown reminded the group that San Francisco is still "world class," and promised to remain aggressive in cleaning up the City. Other speakers and a panel of media people examined the issues of trash, homelessness and how to change "litter" behavior on the part of residents and tourists. Following Brown, Parks Director Elizabeth Goldstein offered a glimpse into future projects: urban greenways and green schoolyards.

I attended one afternoon workshop on the Bureau of Urban Forestry, a new department that puts all municipal staffers dealing with tree issues in one office. It is hoped that streamlining things will result in a more efficient and user-friendly operation, one that can deal with the many issues affecting public and private trees. The workshop focused on generating additional funding for BUF and improving public education relating to new Urban Forest projects.

North Beach Beautification Advisory Committee

General news items:

• The Beautification Committee assisted DPW in planning the District 3 August Community Clean Team.

• DPW noted that we will receive continued

continued on page 23

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O'REILLY'S

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

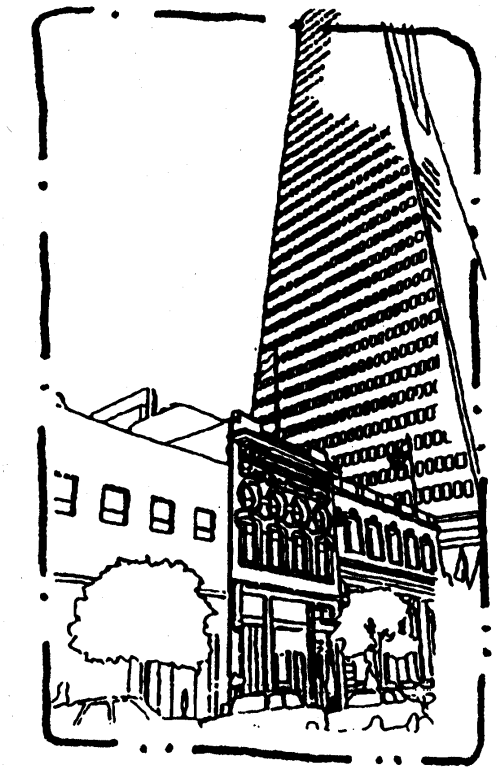
continued from previous page

street-sweeping services by SLUG workers for another year.

• A new "Clean Patrol" has been funded, with the assistance of Supervisor Aaron Peskin, to provide extra sweeping in the commercial areas bordering the neighborhoods. This program will soon feature new "mini mechanical sweepers" that can more easily negotiate the cleanup of North Beach alleys.

North Beach Citizens Clean Teams

The Clean City Coalition has now implemented a new work project coordinated with the North Beach Citizens group. This project employs homeless people who participate in the NBC outreach program. Several four-member teams will sweep specifically designated North Beach streets, with the alleys being targeted for the initial efforts. These sweepers will be wearing orange vests and will work Monday through Thursday, from 8 to 11 a.m.



advertisement

New Trash Receptacles

The DPW has reported to us on their redesign of city trash receptacles. Made of stainless steel and embossed with a neighborhood emblem, they will feature spaces for recyclable trash. The DPW says the new design also permits easier access for the waste collection.

Newsstand Pedestals

New newsstand pedestals are soon to be installed downtown. Watch for them.

Adopt a Street

The Beautification Committee continues to sign up North Beach merchants and residents for the Clean City Coalition's inspired Adopt-a-Street program. If you'd like to adopt your street, please drop me a line at 398-2055 (hollowayfineart@aol.com).

August DPW Blitz

By now, the DPW August Blitz is history. We hope you see an improvement in streets and sidewalks, now that residents have had the opportunity to discard some major bulky items in those large Norcal bins.

Bankers Project

Under Marc Bruno's leadership, we have been meeting with a five-member North Beach bankers consortium in a project called "Five Corners/Clean the Streets Together." *(Ed—see story pg. 20)* Marc has done a superb job in recruiting and organizing local businesses who

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

continued from previous page

were able to hire a non-profit steam cleaning group to work on the areas around their buildings. It is hoped that this program will snowball and eventually include other neighboring businesses.

Greenwich Steps

A group of residents on the Greenwich Street Steps has been meeting to plan a cleanup and rehabilitation of the garden that Valetta Heslet tended to so sensitively for many, many years. *(Ed. — See "Good Thing Growing..." pg. 21)*

The Oral History Committee needs a volunteer with a computer and typing skills to transcribe audio-taped interviews. Please call Audrey at 391-1792

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Talking Trash in North Beach

The Scoop on Norcal's new FAN-3 Program

By Marc Bruno

In response to a request by President Gerry Crowley, Norcal has agreed to implement in North Beach-Telegraph Hill the so-called "Fantastic Three" (FAN-3) Container and Pick-Up Program in the fall of this year rather than next spring.

FAN-3 helps Norcal conform to a new state environmental policy requiring every county to recycle at least 50 percent of local residential and business waste.

The program consists of three plastic bins (Norcal calls them "toters"): one black, one blue, one green. Each bin holds 32 gallons and measures 3.2 feet high, 19 inches wide and 2 feet deep (with the rear handle). To be part of FAN-3, you need to accept at least the black bin (regular garbage) and blue bin (plastic-paper-glass recycling). If you're interested in saving a few bucks, you can ask Norcal for an insert for your garbage bin. This reduces the capacity of the bin from 32

continued on next page

Coming soon to a curbside near you: the FAN-3

TALKING TRASH

continued from previous page

to 20 gallons, but you get a comparable reduction in your monthly garbage rate. The green compost bin is optional.

Take the FAN-3 Poll

FAN-3, good for the environment? Yes. Easy to understand and use? Well, let's just say that if you ever thought that throwing away a piece of garbage was a mindless task, think again.

In a not-so-scientific poll I recently conducted with three German tourists (all engineers, one of them sober) at Mario's Bohemian Cigar Store, I discovered that not everything about FAN-3 is based on common human experience or intuition. Take the poll yourself, and see how you do. Here are my questions and the responses from my German friends:

1) Q: When using the blue recycling bin, should you dispose of plastic grocery bags? *A: "Ja! " (Trans. "Yes")*
2) Q: When using the green compost bin, should you be able to dispose of planting soil? *A: "Ja! Ja! Ja!" (Trans. "Really Big Yes.")*
3) Q: Do aerosol cans belong in the blue recycling bin or the black regular garbage bin? *A: "Schwarzeimer?" (Trans. "The black one?")*
4) Q: Why is it necessary to have a 20-gallon insert in a 32-gallon bin? Why not give customers a smaller bin which would take up less space? *A: "Wir befurworten die Arbeitsbeschaufungsmaßnahmen." (Trans. "We are always in favor of job creation schemes.")*

In every case, our German engineers were wrong! A plastic bag cannot be recycled, but, surprisingly, aerosol cans (as well as empty paint cans) may be disposed of in the blue recycling bin. The green compost bin does not accept any soil, even though that's what its contents will eventually become. And the reason for the 20 gallon insert is not "job creation" but because Norcal's new automated trucks cannot handle toters smaller than 32 gallons.

The best way to know what trash to discard where, and where to place your new toters, and which combination of toters best fits your needs, is to read the material Norcal mails you. The first mailer is due in mid-October. A second mailer, due in November, includes three large stickers which list exactly what you can and cannot toss in each pail. Then, if you still don't understand everything about FAN-3 (I certainly don't), feel free to call the phone number posted on the mailers to ask questions. A Norcal rep can even make an onsite visit prior to implementation.

The other choice, of course, is to merely keep things at your home exactly as they are, a choice Norcal discourages. However, before deciding to retain traditional garbage pick-up over the revolutionary and risky, consider this: Your garbage pick-up costs will increase (a 16 percent, across-the-board increase has already been approved for the first year of FAN-3) unless you join the new pro-

continued on next page

The Semaphore is looking for a new advertising manager. This is a great way to get to know the businesses in your neighborhood and help out the THD. Please call Bob at 362-6969 or email bob@filbert.net.

TALKING TRASH

continued from previous page

gram. Of course, your costs will also go up if you join the program; they just won't go up as much.

Things that Might Make You a FAN

In addition to the money you will save, here are five more reasons you should consider adopting FAN-3:

1) Your disposal of non-compost recycling is made easier than ever because your new blue recycling bin is six times larger than your current "indoor model." It has a lid, accepts non-separated plastic, paper, and glass, and rolls around on wheels.
2) You will discourage the dispersal of paper and recyclables on our streets because your blue bin can be covered (and for a small additional monthly charge, locked).
3) You will help the environment by recycling more organic disposables than ever before, as the green compost bin is entirely new.
4) In all this, you will contribute significantly to the clean-up efforts of our neighborhood and the City at-large: the Thing for Which We Are All Born.
5) Get up early one morning and walk down the alleys of North Beach. Head down Grant and watch the dust spew from the tops, sides and underneath the noisy mechanical street cleaner. Go to Washington Square and try to stuff that old bus transfer into an overflowing public trash can. Then re-read Number 4.

A Final Caveat

Much of what I am writing about is in flux. The recycling requirements imposed by the state are rigid, but how we get there as a City is not fixed.

So, FAN-3 is somewhat of an experiment. Norcal might adjust the program to meet the idiosyncratic needs of Telegraph Hill, North Beach and Chinatown. (These three neighborhoods, with a few streets exempted for special collection routing, are slated for a single start-up.) So don't be shy! Call Norcal if you need assistance with the program. Who better to express our neighborhood's idiosyncrasies than each of us, the Norcal customer?

Norcal's FAN-3 phone is 415-626-4000.

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What's New at the North Beach Library

by Robert Carlson

2002 has been an eventful year for the North Beach Branch of the San Francisco Public Library. As well as our popular children's programming, the branch continues to host a variety of adult and general audience programs each month. In fact, our branch currently provides the most adult programming of all San Francisco Public Library branches. So far in 2002, these programs have included poetry readings, literary lectures, a classical music performance, a job search workshop, and a Chinese classical dance performance. The North Beach Branch also hosts a regular theatre program. The Sit-Down Readers' Theatre is coordinated by an actor and teacher who directs library patrons in readings of short plays. Plays by Shaw, Shakespeare, Synge, Wilde, Yeats, and Langston Hughes have been presented. Previous acting experience is not required for this program, only a love of drama.

The popular children's programs include preschool story times and films each month, as well as a lapsit program to introduce the youngest of our patrons (1-3 year-olds) to the fun of reading. We also have films for kids ages six and up, and an ongoing reading and discussion series for middle school-aged children. In October Bay Area author Jili Jiang will be here to give a slide presentation and lead a discussion on her book, "Red Scarf Girl." This will be held on October 29th at 4 PM.

This year we launched two campaigns aimed at sprucing up the interior of the library. The first one—a plant donation program—saw library patrons bring in a variety of small trees and house plants to green up the Branch. The second—a poster frame donation program—was kicked off after City Lights Bookstore gave us a number of posters to hang on our walls. Though we are no longer accepting plant donations, we're still looking for poster frames to mount those City Lights posters.

We always welcome comments, suggestions, and insights that may help us serve you better. So please drop by and browse our stacks or pick up a schedule of upcoming events. You will find an enthusiastic staff, committed to providing the book, video, DVD, compact disk, or information that you are looking for in a timely fashion.

Robert Carlson has been branch manager at the North Beach Library (2000 Mason St.) since October 2001. Previously he held positions at the Ingleside and Western Addition Branches and at the Brooklyn Public Library in New York. He can be reached at Nbemgr@sfpl.org.

Letters to the Editor

I would like to submit information clarifying the *Semaphore's* representation *(ed.—Planning & Zoning Report, Issue #160)* of activity on my property at 430 Vallejo. The reason renovations have occurred "without permit" is because the city has not issued permits, in spite of my continuing efforts to comply with the Kafkaesque process.

There is not sufficient space here to enumerate all details. I site a key example: I submitted permit application 2000/02/29/3124 covering much of the work at issue to city planning on February 29, 2000 (well prior to work commencing). There was no action by city planning until April 25, 2001, 14 months later, when the permit was approved one day prior to a hearing on the matter. The hold-up is not with me, but with city planning.

I invite neighbors to pass by my property and judge for themselves if I have improved the neighborhood. I invite city planning to rise above the noise and approve permit applications which have been in process far too long.

—Martti Vallila, 430 Vallejo

The Semaphore welcomes your comments. Please address mail to THD Semaphore P.O. Box 330159, SF, CA 94133 or email semaphore@thd.org. All letters are subject to editing.

THD Board Resolutions

MAY

The Board unanimously approved a motion stating: "Telegraph Hill Dwellers strongly urges the proponents of the Emperor Norton Project and the Macchiarini Steps (Kearny Street) Project to engage in mediation in order to reach agreement with respect to the location and design of the Emperor Norton Project. Telegraph Hill Dwellers asks each of the proponents to select two representatives to participate in the mediation."

Because of overwhelming neighborhood opposition to the DPW plan to add mechanical street cleaning the Board moved to withdraw its letter to the DPW requesting a public meeting on this issue. Instead, a community meeting on North Beach clean-up was held at Francisco middle school on May 29th.

The Board agreed to contribute $1,000 toward the Upper Grant Avenue Art Fair, making THD the first primary sponsor of this event.

JUNE

No resolutions.

JULY

No Board meeting

AUGUST

The Board agreed to donate $500 in support of restoration of the Jazz Mural at the intersection of Broadway & Columbus Ave.

Order your copy of *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill*

As almost everyone who has lived on Telegraph Hill for long knows, *San Francisco's Telegraph Hill* by David Myrick is a collector's item. The out-of-print first edition of this book, lovingly detailing the colorful history of the Hill, sells for $200 these days.

Last year, David agreed to make revisions to the original, and THD agreed to sponsor the second edition of the Myrick book. The new volume includes 32 new pages and 50 more photographs.

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Please mail this form and a check in the appropriate amount **payable to Telegraph Hill Dwellers to:**

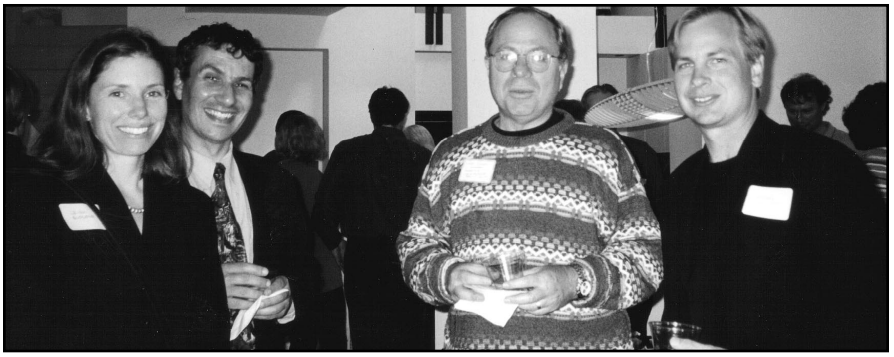
Telegraph Hill Dwellers -- Book Orders / P.O. Box 330159, San Francisco, CA 94133

If you have any questions, please write Telegraph Hill Dwellers or call (415) 255-6799.

THD Welcomes New Members

May to July 2002

Gregg Alton, Marlene Arnese, Felice Baum, Cecilia & Bobby Bell, Phyllis Bishoff, Lois & David Brown, Steven Carter, Cherie Chooljian, Song Lee & Laurent Detoc, Marjorie Dobkin, Jack & Doris Early, Arthur Feldman, Suzanne Harris, Gisele Huff, Thomas Kernan, Deena Landau, Carl Levinson, Tony Long, Jenni Farrell & David Marsyla, Rick Matcovich, Michelle Gislason & Keenan McAlvney, Linda McBain, Geraldine McTigue, Helen & Richard Monaco, V.B. Morgan, Meeta Pandya, Locey Pfeifer, Ellen Ramsey Sanger, Cass Calder Smith, Marilyn & Bob Smith, Harold J. Spaeth, Carol Verburg, Sally Vesley, Rose Marie Wiener, Keith Wilson, Mrs. Bin-Ching Wu, Laura & Mark Yockey, Jamie & Stanley Zagrodnik.



(left to right) Leigh Budlong, Marc Bruno, Marv Kasoff, and Andrew Budlong yuck it up at last sumer's New Members Party.

For a Voice in Your Neighborhood Join Telegraph Hill Dwellers.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

Sign Up or Sign a Friend Up as a member of Telegraph Hill Dwellers.

Complete and mail to THD, PO Box 330159, SF, CA 94133

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

Individual $25 ____ Household $40 ____ Senior (age 65 and over) $15 ____

THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU

You can make a difference! Join one of THD's committees, meet and work with your fellow Hill Dwellers to improve life on the Hill.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Parking and Transportation. Chair, to be determined. Promotes efforts to ease congestion, optimize white zones, upgrade public transportation. Works with Department of Parking and Traffic.

Planning and Zoning. Coordi-nator, Mary Lipian, 391-5652; lipianmw@aetna.com. Monitors and reviews proposed development projects for consistency with applicable City ordinances. Works with Planning Department staff and represents THD before the Landmarks Board, Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator and other regulating bodies to protect historic resources and maintain neighborhood character. Assists members to learn more about and participate in planning and zoning issues.

***Semaphore*.** Editor Bob McMillan, 362-6969; bob@filbert.net. The editor and staff produce a quarterly magazine for THD members.

Program. Chair Suzanne Nelson, 986-6210; suzanne_nelson@yahoo.com. Arranges social events, including quarterly membership meetings and get-acquainted social functions.

Budget. Maya Armour, 986-1474; mlarmour@pacbell.net. As prescribed in bylaws for Treasurer.

Membership. Chair Tom Noyes, 981-8520; tom@noyesfamily.com. As prescribed in bylaws for Financial Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS

Parks and Trees. Chair Arthur Chang, 331-1500, ext. 733; achang@surfree.com. Information and projects concerning local parks, green spaces and street trees.

Neighborhood Beautification Jan Holloway, 398-2055; hollowayfineart@aol.com. Creates opportunities to improve, beautify, and preserve the Hill. Through its awards program, recognizes individuals and businesses who enhance our neighborhood. Facilitates cleanup, gardening and graffiti removal.

Oral History Project Chair Audrey Tomaselli, 391-1792; tmsli@earthlink.net. Taped interviews provide historical documentation of living and working in the neighborhood.

THD Web Page. Webmaster Peter Overmire, 989-3945; plo@overmire.com. Shared information about meetings, local concerns and events.

LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods. Representative Gerry Crowley, 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. City-wide organization interacts with other neighborhoods to discuss common problems.

North Beach Neighborhood Coalition. Representative Gerry Crowley. 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. Tel-Hi-sponsored group of residents, merchants and government agencies working together to address neighborhood issues.

N.E.R.T. June Fraps, 392-1187; junefraps@juno.com. Energizes members to take emergency disaster response training program sponsored by the City.

WEB SITE = www.thd.org

That's Us! Pete Overmire (989-3945; plo@overmire.com), a longtime THDer and former officer has set up this site for Telegraph Hill Dwellers. Access it to see the sensational look he has created. Lend him photographs and graphics relevant to the Hill that he can scan in. Call or e-mail information about upcoming meetings in the neighborhood and at City agencies, and ideas and concerns you want the rest of us to know about between *Semaphores*.

"...The single most important element in the successful purchase or sale of your home is the agent you choose to represent you."

Gloria

Gloria Smith
TRI COLDWELL BANKER
415-229-1381

THD CALENDAR

2nd Saturday Stair & Garden Work Parties, October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11. Meet at Pioneer Park. For more information call 552-7774.

SEPTEMBER
22nd Upper Grant Ave. Art Fair

OCTOBER
7th General Membership Cocktail Party
13th Italian Heritage Parade

NOVEMBER
8th – Bowling with Russian Hill Neighbors
11th General Membership Dinner

DECEMBER
8th Holiday Party

Look for your invitations for exact times and locations as well as additional events.

Dates and locations subject to change.

Schedules of Committee Meetings

PLANNING & ZONING: First Thursdays. Call for time and location. 986-7070.

For more information, log on to http://www.thd.org

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